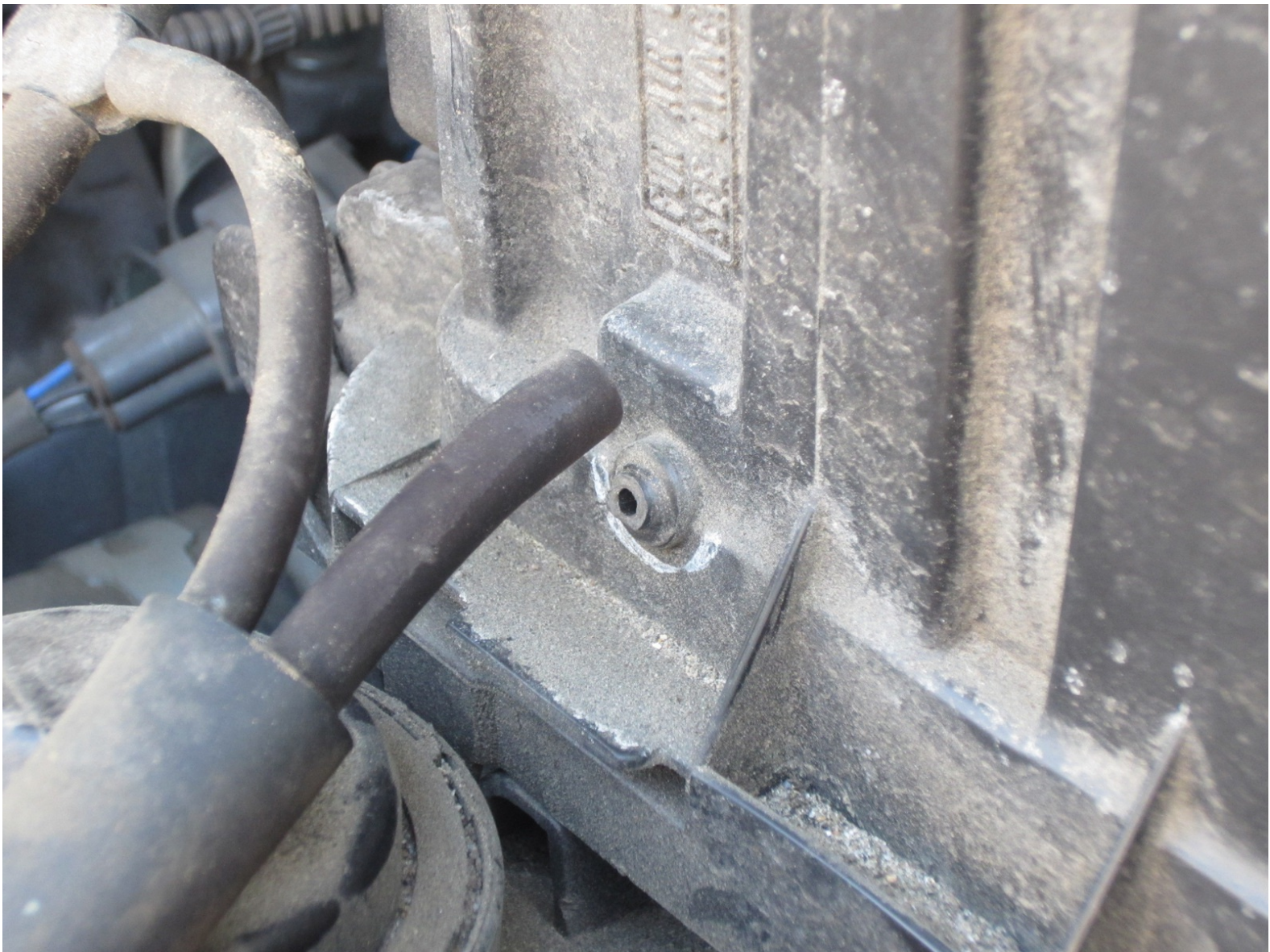




Repairing Toyota Sienna Air Filter Vacuum Connector

The connector on a Toyota air filter housing is easily broken. Instead of replacing the housing, replace the connector with a \$5 fitting from Lowe's.

Written By: Steven Paradise



INTRODUCTION

The [guide](#) by "broadws", itself based on [suggestions](#) by "mapatni" is excellent, but is tagged as needing more and better images. It also calls for a part that has to be ordered online. A friend helped me identify a [fitting at Lowe's](#) that's even cheaper, but the details are a bit different.

You might be able to tell from my clean, unmarred hands that I don't work with my hands much, and in fact, this was my first automotive fix (I'm nearly 35), so if *I* can do it, *anybody* can do it. Fortunately, my wife is handy and had all of the necessary tools (though she joked that she was nervous about letting me use them).



TOOLS:

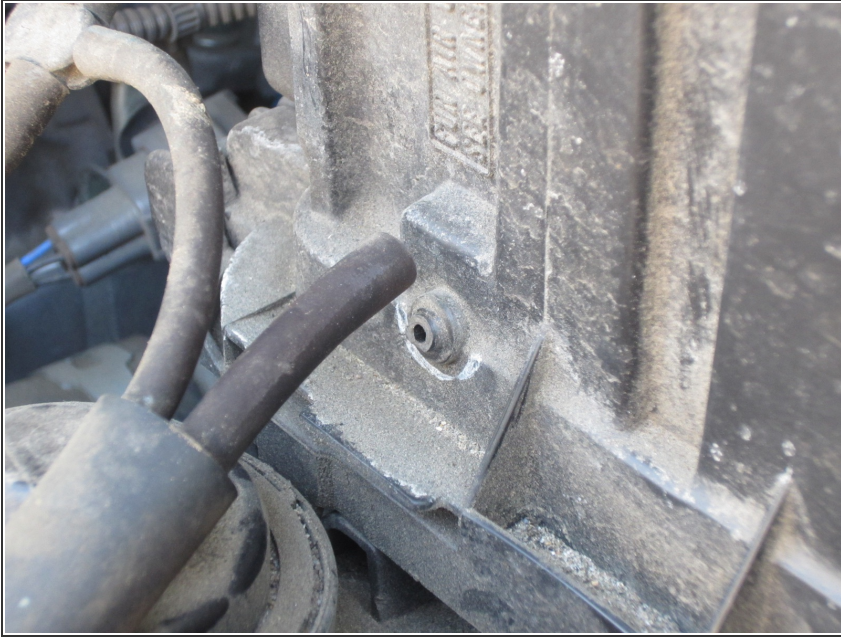
- [Socket Wrench](#) (1)
- [1/2" Ratchet Extension](#) (1)
- [Socket 10mm](#) (1)
- [Cordless Drill](#) (1)
- [1/2" drill bit](#) (1)
- [Small saw, file, or Dremel rotary tool](#) (1)
- [9/16" Wrench](#) (1)
- [Wire Coat Hanger](#) (1)
- [Vacuum Cleaner](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [1/8-in x 1/4-in barb fitting](#) (1)
- [Teflon tape](#) (1)

Step 1 — Repairing Toyota Sienna Air Filter Vacuum Connector



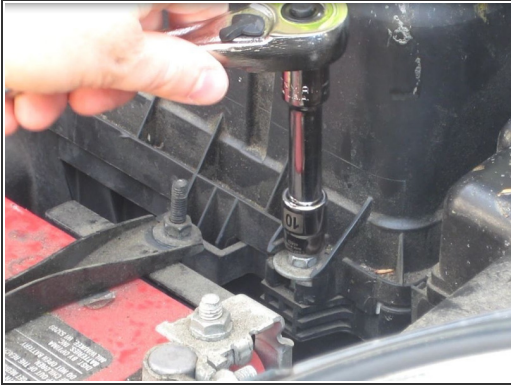
- Here's what the broken connector looks like. If the broken end is still inside the hose, remove it. Insert the end of a wire clothes hanger through the hole. Torque it to get a grip on the tip, and pull and turn until it comes out.

Step 2



- To open the housing, you'll need to loosen two bolts on the right side of the housing -- one on the front, and one hiding in the back.
- (My wife doesn't think it was necessary to remove the housing, and she may be right. I think it probably made it easier to get the right angles for following steps.)

Step 3



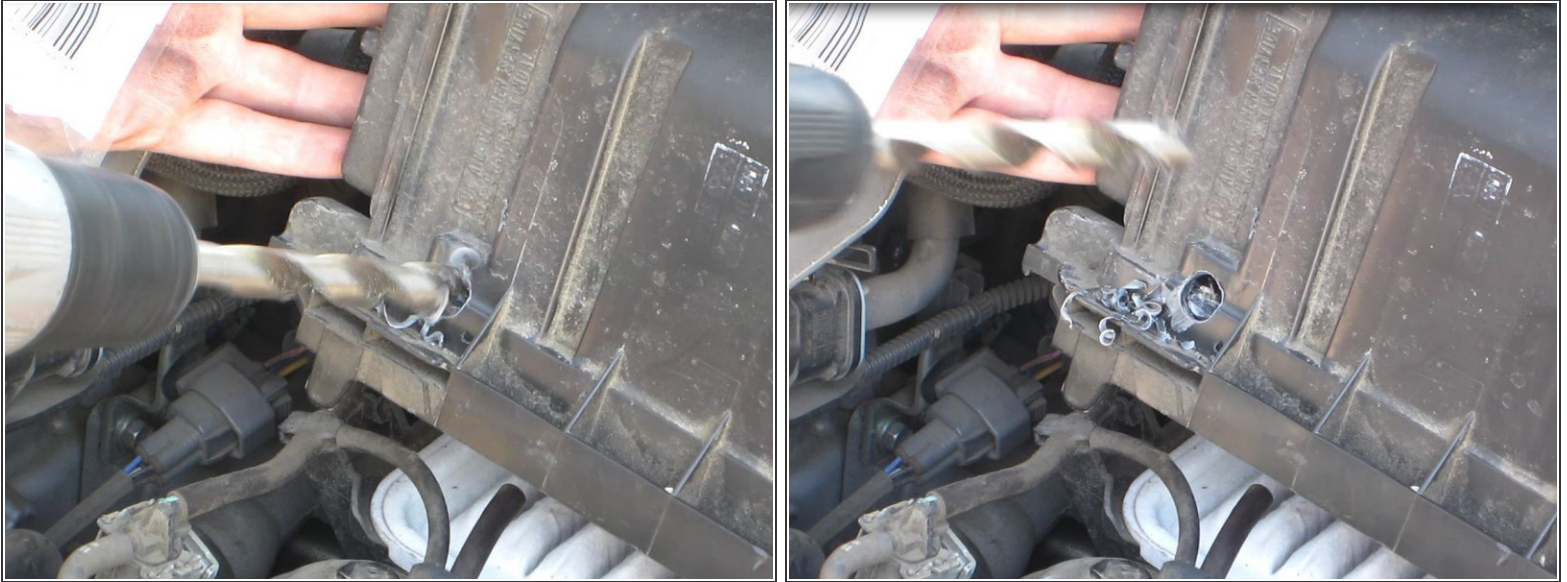
- Use a socket wrench with an extension and 10mm socket. Loosen it with the wrench, then use your fingers to loosen the rest of the way. The bolts are captive, meaning they won't come out all the way.
- It takes some finagling to get to the back bolt, and it's cozy, but it's doable.
- Once both bolts are loosened, grab the right side of the housing, and rotate it firmly but gently up toward the left side, and it should open.

Step 4



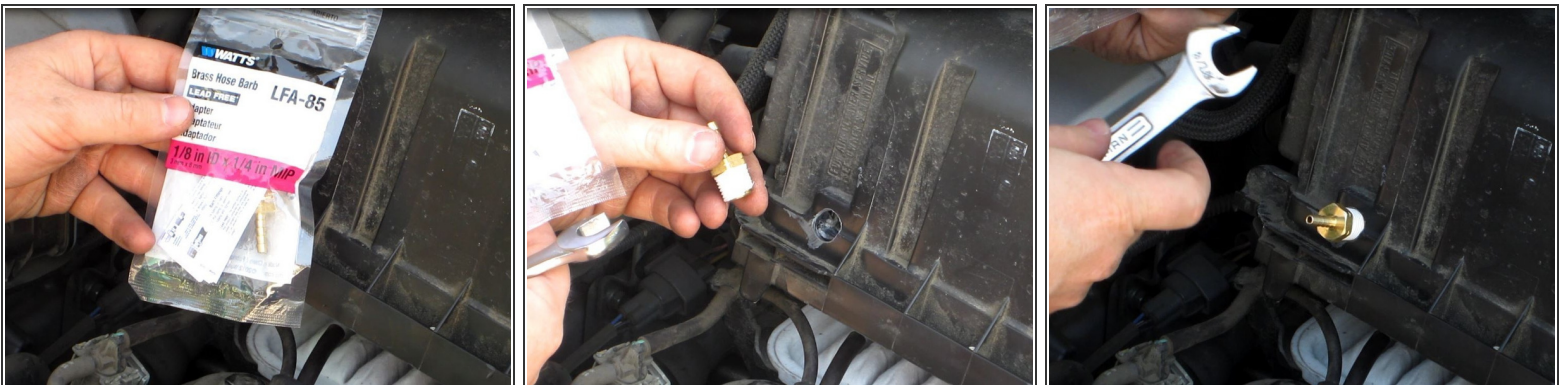
- Cut the remnants of the connector off to make it flush with the housing. This will make it easier to drill in the next step.
- You can use a small, flat saw for this. I used my wife's Dremel. Be careful not to damage other parts of the housing, hoses, etc.
- I didn't get a very good photo after the connector was off. You should be able to see the hole.

Step 5



- Using the hole to center the drill bit, drill out the old connector with a 1/2" bit. (If you're an amateur like me, you might try using a smaller bit, say 1/4", first for practice, and to make the final hole easier.)
- Go slowly so you don't damage the housing, and be careful not to cut or damage any other parts. Be careful not to go too deep – just deep enough that the fitting will be able to go all the way in.
- After your hole is done, use a vacuum cleaner to suck out any plastic bits that got into the hole.

Step 6



- Wrap the fitting with two layers of Teflon tape in a clockwise direction (if you're looking at the threaded end – if you go the wrong way, the tape will unravel when you're screwing the fitting in).
- Put the fitting into the hole, and use a 9/16" wrench to screw it in until it's flush with the housing.

Step 7



- If you need to change your air filter, do so now.
- Close the housing – get the tabs on the left slide into their slots first, and then you should be able to rotate the right side down to get it into place. Hand-tighten the bolts, then tighten them down with the socket wrench.
- Slide the hose onto the barb as far as it will go, and voila, your Sienna is fixed! For under \$10!
- If *I* can fix it, *anybody* can.

Clean up, put away your tools, and celebrate saving yourself a lot of money!

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